

Appln No. 10/552,174
Amdt date March 10, 2008
Reply to Office action of January 8, 2008

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A longitudinal guiding element for a motor vehicle seat comprising:

two guide elements extended in [[the]]a seat longitudinal direction; and

a guiding device by which the one guide element is displaced in the seat longitudinal direction relative to the other guide element wherein the guiding device comprises two sliding guides mounted one behind the other in the seat longitudinal direction and each have a guiding slide and a guiding pin guided in the guiding slide;

wherein a first sliding guide of the two sliding guides is formed by a guiding slide provided on the one [[rail]]guide element and a guiding pin provided on the other [[rail]]guide element and that a second sliding guide of the two sliding guides is formed by a guiding pin provided on the one [[rail]]guide element and a guiding slide provided on the other [[rail]]guide element, whereby the distance between the two guiding pins changes when the two guide elements are displaced relative to each other.

2. (Previously Presented) The longitudinal guiding element for a seat according to claim 1, wherein the two guide elements are displaceable relative to each other in the seat longitudinal direction between a first end position and a second end position.

3. (Currently Amended) The longitudinal guiding element for a seat according to 2, wherein the first guiding slide and the second guiding slide each extend between a front stop in [[the rail]]a guide element longitudinal direction and a rear stop in [[the rail]]a guide element longitudinal direction wherein the stops restrict movement of the guiding pins in the guiding slides.

4. (Previously Presented) The longitudinal guiding element for a seat according to claim 3 wherein in one end position of the two guide elements the guiding pin of a front sliding guide in the seat longitudinal direction bears against the front stop of the guiding slide and the guiding pin of a rear sliding guide in the seat longitudinal direction bears against the rear stop of the guiding slide.
5. (Previously Presented) The longitudinal guiding element for a seat according to claim 4 wherein in the other end position of the two guide elements the guiding pin of the front sliding guide in the seat longitudinal direction bears against the rear stop of the guiding slide and the guiding pin of the rear sliding guide in the seat longitudinal direction bears against the front stop of the guiding slide.
6. (Previously presented) The longitudinal guiding element for a seat according to claim 4 wherein the one end position of the guide elements corresponds to a useful position of the seat in which this is provided for use by a vehicle passenger, and that the other end position of the guide elements corresponds to a displaced position of the seat in which this is not provided to receive a vehicle occupant.
7. (Previously Presented) The longitudinal guiding element for a seat according to claim 1, wherein one guide element is provided to receive an upholstery carrier of a motor vehicle seat and the other guide element is provided for fixing on a structural assembly fixed on a floor of the motor vehicle.
8. (Previously Presented) The longitudinal guiding element for a seat according to claim 1, wherein the two guide elements are mounted side by side horizontally across the seat longitudinal direction and form an inner guide element and an outer guide element.

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9. (Previously Presented) The longitudinal guiding element for a seat according to claim 1, wherein the two guide elements are arranged as a pair on each of the two longitudinal sides of a motor vehicle seat.

10. (Previously Presented) The longitudinal guiding element for a seat according to claim 1, wherein a locking device is provided for locking the guiding device in at least one seat longitudinal position.

11. (Previously Presented) The longitudinal guiding element for a seat according to claim 1, wherein each guiding pin is supported in an associated guiding slide along a horizontal axis perpendicular to the seat longitudinal direction.

12. (Previously Presented) The longitudinal guiding element for a seat according to claim 1, wherein each guiding pin is supported at an edge of an associated guiding slide along a horizontal transverse direction perpendicular to the seat longitudinal direction.

13. (Previously Presented) The longitudinal guiding element for a seat according to claim 1, wherein the two guide elements are supported against one another at an edge of each guiding slide along a horizontal transverse direction perpendicular to the seat longitudinal direction.

14. (Previously Presented) The longitudinal guiding element for a seat according to claim 1, wherein in each guiding slide there is a slider for supporting at least one of an associated guiding pin and the other guide element.

15. (Previously Presented) The longitudinal guiding element for a seat according to claim 14, wherein each slider has at least one support face for supporting the associated guiding pin in a vertical direction and at least one support face for supporting at least one of the associated guiding pin and the other guide element in a horizontal direction across the seat longitudinal

direction.

16. (Previously presented) The longitudinal guiding element for a seat according to claim 15, wherein the support faces enable a support in two oppositely aligned directions along the vertical axis and a support in two oppositely aligned directions along the horizontal axis perpendicular to the seat longitudinal direction.

17. (Previously presented) The longitudinal guiding element for a seat according to one of claims 14 to 16, wherein the sliders are made of plastics.

18. (Previously Presented) The longitudinal guiding element for a seat according to claim 14 wherein, each slider extends with at least one part of a slide region in the seat longitudinal direction only over a part of an extension of an associated guiding slide.

19. (Previously Presented) The longitudinal guiding element for a seat according to claim 18, wherein the two guide elements are displaceable relative to each other in the seat longitudinal direction between a first end position and a second end position and wherein in an end position of the first and second end positions serving as the useful position of the two guide elements the guiding pins are not supported on the associated sliders along the vertical axis.

20. (Previously Presented) The longitudinal guiding element for a seat according to claim 19, wherein the guiding pins in the first end position of the guide elements are not supported on the associated sliders along the vertical axis.

21. (Previously Presented) The longitudinal guiding element for a seat according to claim 19 wherein each guiding slide tapers in an end section which is free of a slide region of an associated slider in order to provide a continuous smooth transition between the slide region and the end section of the guiding slide.

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22. (Previously Presented) The longitudinal guiding element for a seat according to claim 1, wherein the guide elements and the guiding pins are made of metal.

23. (Currently Amended) A motor vehicle seat having a longitudinal guiding element for the seat comprising:

two guide elements extended in a seat longitudinal direction;

a backrest; and

a guiding device by which one guide element is displaced in the seat longitudinal direction relative to the other guide element;

wherein the guiding device comprises two sliding guides mounted one behind the other in the seat longitudinal direction and each have a guiding slide and a guiding pin guided in the guiding slide;

wherein a first sliding guide is formed by a guiding slide provided on the one [[rail]]guide element and a guiding pin provided on the other [[rail]]guide element and that a second sliding guide of the two sliding guides is formed by a guiding pin provided on the one [[rail]]guide element and a guiding slide provided on the other [[rail]]guide element, whereby the distance between the two guiding pins changes when the two guide elements are displaced relative to each other.

24. (Previously Presented) The motor vehicle seat according to claim 23, wherein the backrest is foldable from at least one upright position in which it serves to support a back of a vehicle occupant forwards in a direction of a seat underframe of the vehicle seat.

25. (Previously Presented) The motor vehicle seat according to claim 24 wherein a locking device is provided for locking the guiding device in at least one seat longitudinal position and wherein the locking device is associated with an unlocking element and that the unlocking element is only accessible for unlocking the locking device when the backrest is folded forwards.

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26. (Currently Amended) A motor vehicle seat having a longitudinal guiding element for the seat comprising:

two guide elements extended in a seat longitudinal direction; and

a guiding device by which one guide element is displaced in the seat longitudinal direction relative to the other guide element;

wherein the guiding device comprises two sliding guides mounted one behind the other in the seat longitudinal direction and each have a guiding slide and a guiding pin guided in the guiding slide;

wherein a first sliding guide is formed by a guiding slide provided on the one [[rail]]guide element and a guiding pin provided on the other [[rail]]guide element and that a second sliding guide of the two sliding guides is formed by a guiding pin provided on the one [[rail]]guide element and a guiding slide provided on the other [[rail]]guide element, and further comprising a backrest;

wherein the two guide elements are displaceable relative to each other in the seat longitudinal direction between a first end position and a second end position;

wherein the first guiding slide and the second guiding slide each extend between a front stop in the [[rail]]guide element longitudinal direction and a rear stop in the [[rail]]guide element longitudinal direction wherein the stops restrict movement of the guiding pins in the guiding slides;

wherein in one end position of the two guide elements the guiding pin of a front sliding guide in the seat longitudinal direction bears against the front stop of the guiding slide and the guiding pin of a rear sliding guide in the seat longitudinal direction bears against the rear stop of the guiding slide;

wherein the one end position of the guide elements corresponds to a useful position of the seat in which this is provided for use by a vehicle passenger, and that the other end position of the guide elements corresponds to a displaced position of the seat in which this is not provided to receive a vehicle occupant;

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wherein the backrest is lockable in its forward-folded position and that the backrest can only then be released for raising back up into its upright position when the longitudinal guiding element of the seat is located in the useful position; and

wherein the backrest is foldable from at least one upright position in which it serves to support a back of a vehicle occupant forwards in a direction of a seat underframe of the vehicle seat.

27. (Previously Presented) The motor vehicle seat according to claim 26, wherein a locking device is provided for locking the guiding device in at least one seat longitudinal position and wherein the locking device is associated with an unlocking element and that the unlocking element is only accessible for unlocking the locking device when the backrest is folded forwards.